Fresno, CA - Today, Congressman Jim Costa (CA-20) announced that the United States Department of Education has named three Fresno County Schools, Sanger Unified, Firebaugh-Las Deltas Unified and Fresno Unified School District as recipients of the Alcohol Abuse Reduction Grants Program. Combined, the schools will receive just over \$1 million.

" As our communities grow so do the educational needs of low-income and rural areas; these funds help various organizations realize their goal of providing the best possible educational opportunities to their students, " Congressman Costa said.

The Grants to Reduce Alcohol Abuse Program provides resources to local educational agencies to develop and implement innovative and effective alcohol abuse prevention programs for secondary school students. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration will provide technical assistance, disseminate program information and provide training to the grantees.

This grant is awarded in year increments and it is anticipated that it will last for a total of three years. Sanger Unified School District will receive \$306,831, Firebaugh-Las Deltas Unified School District will receive \$487,946.

"Through the use of these funds, schools will have the tools necessary to combat the many societal ills caused by underage alcohol abuse, " concluded Congressman Costa.